

10/572889

IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 MAR 2006

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL: EQ 467247418 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: STONES et al.
Serial No.: n/a
Filed: Contemporaneous Herewith
International Application No. PCT/GB2004/004114
International Application Filing Date: September 23, 2004
Entitled: Vacuum Pump
Dkt. No.: M03B312

Group Art Unit: n/a
Examiner: n/a

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Examiner's attention is directed to the documents identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B "Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant." A copy of each non-US patent document is enclosed.

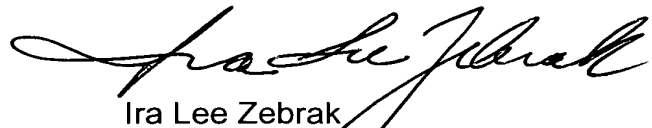
Please consider all the listed documents and list them on the cover sheet of any patents to issue from the subject application.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or within three months of the date of entry of the National Phase of an international application or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), no additional fee is due. As a precaution, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 02-2865 any fee required by this submission.

Very truly yours,

Date: March 20, 2006
The BOC Group, Inc.
Legal Services - Intellectual Property
575 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, NJ 07974
(908) 771-6469


Ira Lee Zebrak
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 31,147

Attachments
Forms PTO/SB/08A & PTO/SB/08B
Cited References

ILZ:bjl

10/572889

IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 MAR 2006

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL: EQ 467247418 US

PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	STONES et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	M03B312

Sheet 1 of 2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US- 4 732 529 A	03-22-1988	Narita et al.	
	2	US- 4 797 068 A	01-10-1989	Hayakawa et al.	
	3	US- 4 826 394 A	05-02-1989	Lotz	
	4	US- 4 978 276 A	12-18-1990	Kabelitz et al.	
	5	US- 5 733 104 A	03-31-1998	Conrad et al.	
	6	US- 6 435 811 B1	08-20-2002	Beyer et al.	
	7	US- 2002/0025249 A1	02-28-2002	Iwane	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	8	EP 0 256 739 B1	05-29-1991	Seiko Seiki Kabushiki		
	9	EP 0 919 726 A1	06-02-1999	The BOC Group plc		
	10	EP 1 302 667 A1	04-16-2003	The BOC Group plc		
	11	GB 2 360 066 A	09-12-2001	The BOC Group plc		

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number			
		Filing Date			
		First Named Inventor	STONES et al.		
		Art Unit			
		Examiner Name			
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	M03B312

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	12	United Kingdom Search Report of Application No. GB 0322883.0; Date of search: March 18, 2004	
	13	United Kingdom Search Report of Application No. GB 0322883.0; Date of search: June 9, 2004	
	14	PCT International Search Report of International Application No. PCT/GB2004/004114; Date of mailing of International Search Report: January 14, 2005	
	15	PCT Written Opinion of the International Search Authority of International Application No. PCT/GB2004/004114; Date of mailing: January 14, 2005	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.